travel.state.gov > Intercountry Adoption > Country Information > Alerts & Notices > **India**

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Notice: Informing the Government of India When an Adopted Indian Child Acquires U.S. Citizenship

Reminder to Notify CARA When Child Adopted from India Acquires U.S. Citizenship

The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) has requested the Department of State's assistance in reminding U.S. adoption service providers with India programs of their obligation to inform CARA when a child adopted from India acquires U.S. citizenship.

CARA is concerned about the citizenship status of children who entered the United States with IR-4 and IH-4 immigrant visas, based on a guardianship order issued by an Indian court, with the intent to complete an adoption in the prospective adoptive parents' state of residence.

An adopted child who entered the United States with an IR-4 immigrant visa prior to February 27, 2001, and was adopted in a U.S. state court but did not obtain a Certificate of Citizenship from the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, may still be a lawful permanent resident of the United States.

Non-U.S. citizens may face difficulty obtaining educational scholarships, qualifying for certain jobs, and enjoying other rights and privileges of citizenship. A lawful permanent resident might also be subject to removal from the United States if convicted of certain crimes or if other grounds of removal apply. For more information, please see After Your Child Enters the United States .

Indian Law Regarding Possession of an Indian Passport Upon Acquisition of U.S. Citizenship

Acquisition of U.S. citizenship under the Child Citizenship Act (CCA) might affect the child's Indian citizenship rights. Under Indian law, the child might be required to surrender his or her passport and could be subject to penalties for failure to do so. Under Indian law, prior to obtaining any Indian consular services such as an Indian visa, the child might also be required to renounce his or her Indian citizenship. Please contact the nearest Indian embassy or consulate for details. Please refer to the Indian Embassy website for contact information.

Please continue to monitor adoption.state.gov for updated information concerning adoptions in India.